19551 Dartmouth Pl.
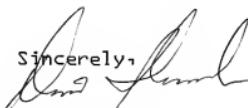Northville, Mich. 48167
August 5, 1980

Dear Bob,

You often ask if subscribers are interested in the add-on
devices for the Bally Arcade. I have to say that I am
interested in all of them, though I surely will be cautious
in buying any; I'd want to see it demonstrated first.

The question I have to keep asking myself is this. If
Bally is not committed to keep the Arcade alive with add-on
products (and dwindling service?), at what point am I
better off buying a new machine with guaranteed support
and all the follow-on devices I might want? Obviously the
answer is now, before I spend any more money. I'd like to
see you address this point in an upcoming issue of the
▽Arcadian▽. For a software buff like myself, it looks
like the future of the Arcade is a cul-de-sac if I can't
do the nifty hardware tricks that you engineers can do.

And now an idea. You have some utility programs for the
new Blue RAM. How about one that is a Basic compiler. That
is, one that will take existing Basic programs into machine
code and put it into the Blue RAM. An option would allow
swapping that machine code out to tape for later loading
and execution. This would have the advantage of much faster
execution, better graphics, etc.

As a possible approach to doing this, examine how the Tiny
Basic cartridge gets to machine code. Use the Bally Basic
routines to do the same thing, and save the resulting machine
code as a whole.

This Basic compiler would make the Blue RAM a very attractive
product for me.

Sincerely,

Dave Ibach